

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-05 SAJ-01 IO-11 OIC-02 /078 W

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R 231153Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5893

INFO USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 01224

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, WB, GW

SUBJECT: INVITATIONS FOR WESTERN PARTICIPANTS IN
MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES IN BERLIN

REFS: (A) BONN 00849 (B) BONN 15103 (1975)

(C) BONN 14547 (1975) (D) STATE 199863 (1975)

(E) BONN 12528 (1975)

BEGIN SUMMARY: IN THE BONN GROUP ALLIED REPS HAVE REQUESTED THE FRG TO PROVIDE THE FORMULATION TO BE USED FOR EXTENDING JOINT INVITATIONS, AS REQUIRED BY THE QA TO WESTERN PARTICIPANTS IN INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES IN BERLIN WHEN THE HOST IS A GOVERNMENTAL ORGAN OTHER THAN THE PARLIAMENT. FRG REP EXPRESSED SURPRISE, FOR HE WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT THE ORIGINAL ALLIED REQUEST WAS RELATED SOLELY TO PARLIAMENTARY INVITATIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. AT JANUARY 20 BONN GROUP MEETING, UK CHAIRMAN
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(HITCH) ASKED FRG DELEGATION FOR FORMULATION WHICH

WOULD BE USED FOR NON-PARLIAMENTARY JOINT INVITATIONS TO WESTERN PARTICIPANTS IN MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES IN BERLIN (PARA 7, REFTEL A). FRG REP (LUECKING) EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT THE QUESTION. IT WAS HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT THE ALLIED REQUEST, WHICH AROSE IN CONNECTION WITH DISCUSSION OF INVITATIONS TO THE BERLIN COLLOQUY OF THE POPULATION AND REFUGEE COMMITTEE OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE (PARA 4, REFTEL B), HAD BEEN DIRECTED SOLELY TO INVITATIONS EXTENDED BY THE BUNDESTAG OR BUNDESRAT.

2. US REP SAID ALLIES, IN EXPRESSING THE VIEW THAT ANNEX IV PROCEDURES SHOULD BE APPLIED GENERALLY TO INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS IN BERLIN (REFTEL D), HAD NOT HAD ANY SUCH LIMITATION IN MIND. HITCH AND THE FRENCH REP (BOISSIEU) SAID THAT THIS WAS ALSO THEIR UNDERSTANDING AND THAT ALLIED REQUEST HAD BEEN MADE ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM CAPITALS.

3. LUECKING STATED THE FONOFF WOULD TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT THE PROBLEM IN ORDER TO MEET ALLIED DESIRES, BUT THAT MATTER WOULD PROBABLY REQUIRE VERY HIGH-LEVEL CONSIDERATION ON THE GERMAN SIDE BECAUSE OF NUMBER AND RANGE OF FRG ORGANS INVOLVED.

4. COMMENT: IN SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION WITH EMBOFF, FRG BONN GROUP REP (VON ARNIM) INDICATED THAT THE MISUNDERSTANDING HAD ARISEN BECAUSE OF THE GERMAN INTERPRETATION OF THE WORD "GENERAL".

HE SAID THE FONOFF HAD TAKEN THIS TO MEAN THE GENERAL QUESTION OF PARLIAMENTARY INVITATIONS-- NOT THE QUESTION OF INVITATIONS AS A WHOLE. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE MISUNDERSTANDING WAS GENUINE. OUR

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RECORDS REFLECT THAT NEITHER LUECKING NOR VON ARNIM WAS PRESENT AT THE SEPTEMBER 11 BONN GROUP MEETING AT WHICH ALLIED REPS MADE THEIR INSTRUCTED APPROACH TO THE FRG ON THE SUBJECT, AND WE OF COURSE HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING HOW THE FRG REPS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THAT MEETING REPORTED IT. WHILE THE ISSUE HAS SUBSEQUENTLY BEEN DISCUSSED WITH LUECKING, ALLIED PRESENTATIONS HAVE BEEN BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT HE WAS AWARE OF THE BASIC ALLIED POSITION. IN ANY CASE, WE BELIEVE THE CLEAR AND UNEQUIVOCAL RESTATEMENT OF THAT POSITION WILL HAVE THE RESULT OF CLEARING AWAY ONCE AND FOR ALL THE CONFUSION WHICH HAS PLAGUED DISCUSSION OF THIS ISSUE-- A VERY SENSITIVE ONE FOR THE GERMANS--SINCE LAST SUMMER.

5. THE FACT THAT CONFUSION OVER THE INTENT OF THE QA PROVISION ON INVITATIONS IS NOT LIMITED TO THE FONOFF WAS HIGHLIGHTED BY AN EXCHANGE ON THE SUBJECT IN THE CONFIDENTIAL

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BUNDESTAG ON JANUARY 15. RESPONDING TO A QUESTION CONCERNING THE BERLIN SPEED SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS, FONOFF MINISTER OF STATE MOERSCH QUOTED ANNEX IV.2.D OF THE QA AND STATED THAT IT WAS NOT APPLICABLE TO THE SKATING EVENT BECAUSE OF THE PRIVATE NATURE OF THE HOSTING ORGANIZATION. MOERSCH WAS THEN ASKED IF THE QA REQUIREMENT FOR JOINT INVITATIONS APPLIED ONLY TO THE USSR OR TO OTHER STATES AS WELL. MOERSCH REPLIED: "THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT IS NOT DIRECTED TOWARD A PARTICULAR STATE, BUT RATHER IT HAS INTERNATIONAL VALIDITY."
HILLENBRAND

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